The details of Committees at various levels are as under:—

National Level	:	National Joint Committee for Steel Industry (NJCS), Joint Committee on Safety, Health & Environment in Steel Industry (JCSSI).
Corporate Level	:	Joint Committees on Production and Productivity.
Plant/Unit Level		Plant level separate Committees on Production, Safety, Grievance, Welfare besides Sports, Education, Medical, Canteen, township etc.
Zonal Level		Separate Committees on Production, Safety, Grievance, Welfare besides Sports, Education, Medical, Canteen, Township etc.
Shop Level	:	Separate Committees on Production, Safety and Welfare.

The informal system of workers' participation in decision making operates through Quality Circles, Suggestion schemes, Shop-Improvement Groups and by direct contribution of employees to production and productivity at the shop-floor.

The national Level Bipartite form in the Steel Industry, viz., National Joint Committee for Steel Industry (NJCS) has emerged as a unique forum, which comprises of management and workers' representatives both from public and private sector (TISCO) including Central and Plant level and the All-India Unions Representatives from the Steel Industry, such as, INTUC, AITUC, HMS, CITU and other recognised trade union organisations of the steel plants. The cooperation, mutual trust and joint decision making in NJCS has percolated down to the Shop Floor level Committees and has helped in reinforcing healthy industrial relations climate and bipartite culture. This has led to enhanced production and productivity in the steel Industry.

Clearance of Turnaround Plan for VSP

1158. SHRI YADLAPATIVENKAT RAO:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:
SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the problems faced by the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant which has been declared officially sick; and

(b) the remedial steps taken and efforts made to rescue the VSP by clearing the turnaround plan quickly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Visakhapatnam Steel Plant has not been officially declared as sick unit under Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 (SICA) and hence problems associated with respect to sick units do not arise at present.

(b) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) had submitted a comprehensive turnaround proposal for its revival which inter-alia included waiver of losses. The Disinvestment Commission has recommended writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the company as on 31.3.1999 alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51 % of its remaining equity in RINL to a strategic buyer. No final decision has yet been taken on these recommendations..

Proposal to Expand the Vizag Steel Plant

1159 SHRI RAMACHANDRAIAH RUMANDLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to expand the Vizag Steel Plant to make it viable;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken to bring down the interest burden on Government loan of the company?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) No, sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL), Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP) had submitted a comprehensive turnaround proposal for its revival which inter-alia included waiver of losses. The Disinvestment Commission has recommended writing off of the entire accumulated losses of the company as on 31.3.1999, alongwith disinvestment of not less than 51% of its remaining equity in RINL to a strategic buyer. No final decision has yet been taken on these recommendations.